

# Village, with new mayor, makes appointments

by MARIAN  
MCMAHON

## MADISON VILLAGE -

The first council meeting of 2012 began with Judge Richard Collins swearing in Sam Britton as the new mayor of Madison Village. He then swore in councilmen Mark Vest, Ken Takacs and Ken Cahill, who is new to council.

Britton then took charge of the Jan. 3 meeting and called for appointment of a councilperson to fill his unexpired term. Duane Frager was nominated and unanimously voted in to fill the seat.

The meeting continued with council voting in Don Bartlett as council president and Takacs as vice president.

Councilmen Takacs, Bartlett and Vest were voted to the Madison Fire Board.

The mayor appointed Takacs and Mike Evangelista to the CRA Housing Committee. The Planning and Zoning Commission will need to appoint another member to CRA.

Britton appointed Councilman Dan Donaldson, Jerry Gardner and Rob Johnson to Planning and Zoning Commission. Council appointed Vest to the committee. The mayor is also a member of the committee and one more member needs to be appointed.

The following appointments were also made: Health Department Committee, Vest; Records Commission, administrator Alyson Moritz, fiscal officer Tony Long and Denise Michaud; Economic Development Board, the mayor, Moritz, Long, Trevor Behm, Vest and Councilman Duane Frager, plus one more resident to be chosen by the mayor; Safety Committee, mayor, Police Chief Dawn Shannon, Takacs, Councilman John Hamerchek and Vest; Utilities Committee, the mayor, Hamerchek, Bartlett and Cahill; Township Liaison Committee, no one appointed yet; Audit Committee, the mayor, Moritz, Long, Donaldson and Cahill; Budget Committee, the mayor, Moritz, Long, Shannon and Council; Senior Board, Mike Gehring, and Lyndsay Johnson stays on; Website Panel, mayor, Moritz, Bartlett and Frager.

Council appointed Terri Wagoner to the Madison Recreation Board and Moritz and Bartlett to the Madison Community Improvement Corporation (MCIC).

Council approved mayor's appointment of the mayor, Ray Meister, Mark Tromba, and Jerry Gardner to Board of Zoning Appeals Committee.

## In other business:

- During discussion for approval of payments, Hamerchek questioned the disbursement of funds to former Mayor Robert Lee of discretionary funds earned by his performance of weddings while mayor.

Long explained some years back, council had passed an ordinance giving the mayor discretionary use of half the fees charged for performing marriage ceremonies. Lee had not used those funds and elected to collect them upon leaving office.

Hamerchek said he was not comfortable paying out funds which had been held for years and could have questions.

Long said council could change the ordinance to provide for clearing the account annually.

After some discussion and questions by council about whether fees were tracked and disbursed properly, Britton said he did believe the account should be cleared annually.

Hamerchek voted no on approving payments.

- Second reading was held on an ordinance making appropriations for the current expenses and for other expenditures of Madison Village from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 and declaring an emergency.

Council suspended the third reading and passed the ordinance.

- First reading was held on an ordinance confirming the appointment of Joseph P. Szeman as law director of Madison Village for 2012, establishing compensation and declaring an emergency.

Council suspended the readings and passed the ordinance.

- "We did receive \$43,000 from OPWC (for Stafford Street)." Long said during his report. "WE have not received or heard anything from ODOT yet. It's been submitted, but we don't know what the result of that will be."

So far, \$160,000 of the \$300,000 borrowed for the project have been returned to the general fund.

- Moritz reminded the public there was no parking allowed on streets when snow exceeds three inches to allow plow operators to clear the streets. They have personnel working different shifts to plow at night as well. The sidewalks will not be plowed unless personnel have the time.

- Regarding the Utilities Committee report, Moritz stated a memorandum of understanding had been sent to the school district and the Lake County Board of Utilities that week.